



NUMBER 130 NEWS-KEY March 21, 1942

Foreign-Language Fifth Column	page 1
Facts About <i>Rossiya</i>	page 2
Nazi-Ukrainian Press	page 3
Fascist Activity on Water Front	page 4

100 E. 42nd St., New York
Murray Hill 5-0688-9

Board

Editor

Albert E. Kahn

Editorial Consultants

Prof. F. L. Schuman

Johannes Steel

Leland Stowe

Wythe Williams

Number 130

March 21, 1942

FOREIGN-LANGUAGE PRO-AXIS PUBLICATIONS FIGHT U. S. WAR EFFORT

Duplicating Propaganda Technique of Native Fifth Column, They Attempt to Undermine Confidence in Roosevelt Administration, Create Suspicion Against Our Allies and Foment Race Hatred

Last week the Christian Science Monitor, the New York Herald-Tribune and PM carried stories revealing that approximately 100 pro-Axis publications were being distributed throughout the country by native fifth columnists seeking to undermine the nation's war effort. These reports confirmed the disclosures in our article, "U. S. Fifth Columnists Launch New Propaganda Campaign," which appeared in the January 10 issue of The Hour, stating: "Fifth columnists in every section of the country are spreading treasonable propaganda in a redoubled effort to create dissension and cripple the country's war effort. ... The fundamental objective of the fifth column in this period is to undermine the morale of the American people and to hamper the United States in the war against the Axis powers."

An investigation conducted by The Hour now reveals that a host of fascist Hungarian, Lithuanian, Armenian, Spanish, Ukrainian, German and other foreign-language publications in this country are energetically spreading pro-Axis propaganda aimed at fomenting disunity among national groups and obstructing the war effort of the United States. Regularly reaching tens of thousands of readers, these seditious publications concentrate on objectives identical to those of the native fascist propagandists; 1) undermining confidence in and creating opposition to the Roosevelt Administration; 2) fostering doubts and suspicions concerning nations allied with the United States -- particularly concerning England and Russia; 3) fomenting disunity by stirring up race hatred, spreading malicious rumors, and promoting panicky and defeatist sentiment.

Rossiya, A Typical Example

Typical of the pro-Axis section of the foreign-language press is Rossiya, a fascist Russian-language newspaper which is published daily at 480 Canal Street, New York City. The editor of Rossiya is Nikolai P. Rybakoff, a White Guard Russian who gloats over the victories of Hitler and Hirohito; slanders the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet

Union; and calls for the extermination of "Jew-Communists" in this country.

On June 26, 1941, four days after the Nazis had invaded Russia, Rossiia stated, "From the standpoint of Russian interests, it is a circumstance exceedingly fortunate for us that Germany has decided to make an end of Communism and Soviet government before she has finished her war against England." The German army was described by editor Rybakoff as "a fiery sword of the justly-punishing Providence, the Christian patriotically anti-bolshevik white victorious legions of Hitler." As soon as England and the United States pledged aid to the Soviet Union, Rybakoff angrily declared, "As paradoxical as it is, America and England, more than any other countries in the world, are at the present time prepared to the acceptance of Communism. In England this preparation has been achieved by ... the crazy madman Churchill. In America ... by the 'New Deal' policy and the most extensive official cooperation with Bolsheviks."

Following the entry of the United States into the war, the editorial policy of Rossiia underwent minor modifications. Open tirades against the U. S. Government became less frequent, with Rybakoff even making occasional mention of his "patriotic and national duty toward the country which has given us refuge." But the general content of the paper remains unaltered. Nazi troops are still described as "liberators"; the only valid use for "an enormous army and navy of the U.S.A." is said to be "against the satanic Communist International, in order to ... save the whole world from Communism if -- God forbid -- the comintern becomes victorious in Europe and Asia"; and a "small clique of internationalists" is pictured as responsible for "dragging" the United States into the war on the side of the anti-Axis powers.

The fact that government authorities permit the continued publication of Rossiia is all the more remarkable in view of the intimate relations existing between this fifth column sheet and Japanese and Nazi agents. As early as August 31, 1940, The Hour disclosed that Constantine Radzaevsky and G. M. Semenoff, two of Tokyo's key espionage and propaganda agents in the Far East, were regularly sending material to Rossiia and were closely cooperating with the subversive newspaper in various other ways. Rossiia also, of course, serves as a rallying point for pro-Nazi White Russians in the United States, such as Boris Brasol (see The Hour for January 17), N. A. Melnikoff, and others.

Fascist Lithuanian and Hungarian Papers

Of all the pro-Axis foreign-language publications, those in Lithuanian are perhaps the most outspoken. A number of them, like the two Chicago dailies Naujienos and Draugas, regularly feature cables from Dr. Pranas Ancevicius, the pro-Nazi Lithuanian journalist appointed by the Berlin Propaganda Ministry to supervise the Nazi-Lithuanian propaganda apparatus which has been established in Kaunas, Lithuania. These dispatches of Ancevicius describe in glowing terms Hitler's "liberation of Lithuania." (It is not without significance that Draugas is edited by Reverend Prunskis, a recent arrival from Berlin, where he headed the

Lithuanian Citizens League, a fascist Lithuanian organization operating under the direction of the Third Reich.) When the Nazis first invaded Lithuania, Vienybe, a fascist Lithuanian weekly published in Brooklyn, New York, brought out a special edition with a banner headline announcing "Lithuania Is Free!"; and Jaunimas, a Chicago publication, carried such statements as the following: "... let us admit it, a sudden crazy twist of the war has placed us in a position where in spite of our heads, our hearts urge us to give three cheers for Hitler and his unbelievably efficient legions." All of these fifth column sheets specialize in vitriolic anti-Semitism. For example, Keleivis, a weekly newspaper published in Boston, regularly refers to the Jews as "stinking kikes."

Fifth column Hungarian publications are scarcely less brazen in their pro-Axis propagandizing. A Jo Pasztor in Cleveland, Othton in Chicago, and Egyetertes in Bridgeport (a key munitions center) publish material emphasizing Axis successes, belittling England, Russia and the United States, and slandering the Jews as "warmongers."

Nazi-Ukrainian Press

Fascist Ukrainian-language papers which in the past have expressed their open allegiance to Hitler's cause are still appearing regularly. Chief among these are Ukraina, the official publication of the Nazi-controlled Organization for the Rebirth of the Ukraine; Nash Styah, organ of the nationalist-terrorist Hetmanites, whose headquarters are in Berlin; and Svoboda, the paper published by the Ukrainian Nationalist Association. The flagrant pro-Nazism of Ukraina and Nash Styah has been somewhat toned down since this country entered the war; they now concentrate on campaigning for the "independence of the Ukraine," with the obvious intention of disrupting the Ukrainian-American community on this issue. Svoboda, which not so long ago printed detailed instructions on the making of bombs (see The Hour for February 8, 1941), is still edited in Jersey City by Luke Myshuha, the Nazi-Ukrainian who in 1938 traveled to the Third Reich and was Dr. Goebbels' guest on a broadcast over the Nazi radio network. A recent addition to the staff of Svoboda is Vladimir Dushnyok, who according to his own admission was arrested in Belgium as a German spy, prior to his coming to the United States.

Fascist German Publications and Others

Before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, there were more than fifty German-language publications appearing regularly in this country. A large percentage of these, like the Deutsche Weckruf und Beobachter, the Portland Nachrichten and the Philadelphia Herald, were violently pro-Nazi. Some of these fascist sheets have since been liquidated, in most cases not because of government pressure but because of inadequate funds. A number of them, however, are still spreading their pro-Axis message. Typical of these is the venomously anti-Semitic Aurora Und Christliche Woche, a Buffalo newspaper edited by Nazi Reverend Mueller, who two weeks ago published the statement that the Free German Movement was a conspiracy of "Communists and Jews."

(More)

Some of the other fascist foreign-language publications being currently distributed are Hairenik, the official organ of the Tashnags, fascist-terrorist Armenian band; Cara al Sol, pro-Falangist paper issued by the Spanish Library of Information; Sloga Hrvata, a fascist Croatian magazine published twice a month at San Jose, California; and the Sentinel, New England pro-fascist Italian weekly.

Government Action Urged

On March 16, in a message sent to the Economic Club of New York, President Roosevelt declared: "The supreme achievement of enemy propaganda would be to create disunity!"

The basic aim of the pro-Axis foreign-language press in this country is clearly to disunite the American people by fomenting dissension among national groups. The Hour therefore urges that government authorities take immediate action against the foreign-language fascist press. Such action will receive the enthusiastic support of the various national groups, which are overwhelmingly pro-American and are themselves calling for measures against the enemies at home who seek to aid the enemies abroad.

* * * * *

FASCISTS ON WATERFRONT

In the March 13 issue of the Pilot, weekly paper of the National Maritime Union, there appeared this significant passage:

"On the East Coast, where gangsters and Nazi agents infest the longshore industry, shiploadings are being sabotaged right under our noses. Cargoes are shifting and ships are breaking up within a few days after leaving port. One particular stevedoring firm, the Jarka Corp., is headed by Franz Jarka, formerly commander of the Vaterland (Leviathan). Jarka was interned during 1917 and 1918 as an enemy alien. This company is agent for and knows the kind of cargo and destination of ships out of New York of the U. S. Lines, Moore-McCormack, Bull, Isthmian and the Arrow Line. Other former officers of the German and Italian Naval Reserves also operate stevedoring firms in New York harbor."

— • —